Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SCS-06 SS-15 NSC-05 /082 W

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R 191537Z JAN 78 FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0260 INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE AMEMBASSY LISBON AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

CONFIDENTIAL PRETORIA 0377

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: CASC, EAIR, AO

SUBJECT: RELEASE BY ANGOLANS OF U.S. REGISTERED AIRCRAFT

REF: PRETORIA 0259 AND STATE 7040

- 1. DAO/PRETORIA HAS OBTAINED INFORMATION FROM SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE (SAAF) WHICH CASTS DOUBT ON CREDIBILITY OF CERTAIN OF HEWARTSON'S STATEMENTS REPORTED IN PRETORIA REFTEL. SAAF SOURCES SAY THEY MONITORED HEWARTSON'S RADIO TRANSMISSIONS AFTER HE DEPARTED GROOTFONTEIN AND TAPES SHOW HIS OVERFLIGHT REQUEST BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT HE RECEIVED OVERFLIGHT APPROVAL FROM LUANDA. SAAF SOURCES ARE ALSO SKEPTICAL OF HEWARTSON STATEMENT HE WAS INTERCEPTED THIRTY MILES OUT TO SEA BECAUSE SPECIFIC INTERCEPTION POINT HEWARTSON HAS GIVEN IS BEYOND RANGE OF LUANDA-BASED MIG 21S WHEN FLYING AT HEWARTSON'S HEIGHT OF 16,000 FT. ON RETURN TRIP.
- 2. COMMENT: WHILE NOT CONCLUSIVE, THESE REPORTS MAY CONFIDENTIAL

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EXPLAIN HEWARTSON'S RELUCTANCE TO ADMIT TO PAYING "FINE" IN FEAR THIS WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS ADMISSION OF OVERFLYING ANGOLA WITHOUT PERMISSION. BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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Subject: RELEASE BY ANGOLANS OF U.S. REGISTERED AIRCRAFT

TAGS: CASC, EAIR, AO

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